

## **MEETING RECORD**

**NAME OF GROUP:** Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

**DATE, TIME AND**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Thursday, August 26, 2004, 8:00 a.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** Jim Hewitt, Thomas Laging, V.J. Nelson and Kim Todd present. **Karen Kilgarin, Patrick O'Donnell and Jeff Searcy absent.**

**Others:** Lynn Johnson, Jerry Shorney and Stacey Ault (Parks and Recreation); Ed Zimmer, Kent Morgan and Michele Abendroth (Planning Dept.)

**STATED PURPOSE**

**OF THE MEETING:** Regular Meeting of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

Mr. Laging called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

### **Approval of meeting notes of April 22, 2004**

Ms. Nelson moved to approve the April 22, 2004 minutes, seconded by Mr. Hewitt. Motion carried 4-0. Hewitt, Laging, Nelson, and Todd voting 'yes'; Kilgarin, O'Donnell, and Searcy absent.

### **Application by Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department for a Certificate of Appropriateness for adding sculpture (Tem & Ptah by Jene Highstein) to Centennial Mall between Q and R Streets**

Lynn Johnson stated that the sculptures Tem and Ptah have been located east of old City Hall for almost 20 years. They would like to relocate the sculptures, partly because there is interest in redeveloping that area into a more active park area. The artist, Gene Highstein, prefers them to be relocated to the north end of Centennial Mall. They would be placed diagonally in the old fountain area. The Parks and Recreation Board has recommended this relocation.

Mr. Hewitt stated that he feels this is a nice location. Mr. Zimmer commented that the sense of enclosure is important and frames the space well. Ms. Nelson asked if there would be a plaque describing the history of the piece. Mr. Johnson replied that there would be such a plaque.

Ms. Todd moved approval of the application, seconded by Ms. Nelson. Motion carried 4-0. Hewitt, Laging, Nelson, and Todd voting 'yes'; Kilgarin, O'Donnell, and Searcy absent.

### **Update by Kent Morgan, Planning Department, on Downtown Master Plan**

Kent Morgan began by stating that the last Downtown Master Plan was completed 30 years ago, and they have begun the process to update the plan. This is a joint effort between the City of Lincoln and the Downtown Lincoln Association. The consultant for this project is Crandall Arambula of Portland, Oregon. The study is approximately an 8-10 month effort. The public outreach efforts include three community workshops. There is also a 22-member community group called the Downtown Action Team. The consulting team is very much concerned with the capitol environs area. Mr. Zimmer added that one of the tools the consultants use often is creating public open space.

Mr. Morgan stated that he will bring information back to the Commission as necessary.

**Staff report: Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan, etc.**

Mr. Zimmer stated that Antelope Valley is in the late stages of preparing the redevelopment plan for submission to the Planning Commission and City Council. They are trying to get input from Crandall Arambula about how the two projects will fit together. There are a couple areas where the Antelope Valley project is touching on the Capitol Environs district, particularly on the east leg. The heart of the J Street corridor has been viewed as a high density residential area. K Street is an active area of interest for Antelope Valley. The most recent discussions have been to change that area from an R-6 residential district to an O-1 district. The potential for a prime residential district in that area is not very good, but an office area could possibly be developed. Mr. Laging stated that the one exception he sees is 18<sup>th</sup> Street as it has the potential to be a linkage from south to north. Mr. Zimmer stated that he agrees.

**Miscellaneous**

Mr. Laging stated that he feels the Commission should have a discussion regarding the direction and membership of the Commission.

There being no further business, Mr. Laging adjourned the meeting at 8:38 a.m.